

## 2024 CEF TRANSPORT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Last update – 11.11.2024

#### Question 1

**Under Topic 1 ‘TA to MS’, WP1 ‘Cooperation with ETCs’: Does CEF technical assistance cover activity such as an assessment for the migration plan to the 1435 mm gauge, according to TEN-T Regulation 2024/1679?**

- The migration plan to the European rail gauge is not part of any activities of the current TA calls.
- It is not included in WP1 ‘Cooperation with the European Transport Corridors’, as it is not part of the direct cooperation within the Corridors.
- It rather stems directly from the TEN-T regulation provisions (Art. 17).

#### Question 2

**Under Topic 1 ‘TA to MS’ and WP1 ‘Cooperation with ETCs’: Should deliverables be included or not?**

- A single deliverable (under the grant agreement) will be the final report in the framework of the final payment request (final REPA).
- Outputs should be described and listed in the final report – in line with the outputs indicated in (page 6 of) the Commission’s lumpsum decision.
- The final report is the document for assessing the technical completion of the outputs under each WP.
- The conditions triggering the payment will be based on the outputs corresponding to each Work Package – as indicated on page 6 of the Commission’s lumpsum decision.

#### Question 3

**Under topic 1, WP2 ‘Support to urban nodes’: May urban node (city municipality administration) submit a separate proposal under WP2 Support to UN itself or only MS (Ministry) may submit proposal for WP2? If only Member State may submit proposal for Work Package 2, may urban node (city municipality administration) participate in the proposal and in what role?**

- Only Member States can submit a proposal under WP 2.
- According to Article 41 of the TEN-T Regulation, Member States shall ensure for each urban node the adoption and monitoring of a sustainable urban mobility plan, as well as the collection and submission of urban mobility data.
- In this regard, Member States shall designate a national SUMP contact point and establish a

national support programme with the aim of supporting urban nodes.

- Support under the call is envisaged to implement the above national SUMP support programme and support Member States in assessing the availability of urban mobility data per each urban node and in setting up the processes and structures to collect urban mobility data for each urban node.

#### Question 4

**Under Topic 1 'TA to MS' and WP3 'Cooperation within RFCs': How can we prevent that Article 22 reports have different planning in different RFCs, as MS cooperate in more than one RFC, so reporting dates don't match?**

- The technical assistance, as set out in the lump sum decision, has an explicit activity 3b requiring Member States to coordinate between corridors.
- This coordination should ensure, amongst other things, that the reports prepared under Article 22 are consistent with each other as regards substance and procedural aspects, such as timing.
- The final report will include the reporting on the outputs during the entire period of implementation of the grant agreement (2025-2027).

#### Question 5

**Will interim payments be foreseen?  
Besides the pre-financing, is it expected only the balance of the payment at final report?**

- There will be no interim payments under the TA grant agreements.
- Only a pre-financing within 30 days from entry into force and a final payment of the balance.
- Up to a 50% pre-financing is foreseen for the 'TA to MS and associated countries' under TAGENEA (topic 1) and TACONEA calls.
- For the other topics, the pre-financing can vary between 25 to 50%.

#### Question 6

**Please clarify what is intended with "in case of significant changes to the circumstances...you may be asked to reduce the grant awarded"? An example may help.**

- This is a standard provision in the call documents for CEF.
- It is intended to safeguard the Community's budget. The Agency reserves the right to ask beneficiaries to request an amendment to reduce the grant amount.
- It applies to circumstances that have an impact on the project budget during the implementation of the project.
- For instance, this provision can be used when it is obvious to the agency that the technical scope of the project will not be completed within the project's duration in the grant agreement.

### Question 7

**May the EC / CINEA consider redistribution of lump sums between WP, e.g. decreasing lump sum amount for communication activities and increasing lump sum amount for urban nodes?**

- Transfers between Work Packages are not possible, as the lump sums are fixed in the Commission's lump sum decision.
- Budget flexibility cannot be used – as it will not be in line with the amounts defined/calculated on the basis of the Commission's lump sum decision.

### Question 8

**The lump sum decision provides for WP2, Clusters A and B, outsourcing thresholds that vary depending on the total number of urban nodes of a Member State as indicated in tables 19 and 20 of the WP2 'Support to urban nodes'. Is it possible to deviate from these outsourcing thresholds?**

Yes, it is possible to outsource the tasks in Work Package 2 to ensure its full implementation – beyond the recommended thresholds of the lumpsum decision.

The conditions triggering the payment will be based exclusively on the outputs corresponding to Work Package 2 in the final report, as indicated in page 6 of the Commission's lump sum decision.

The Member State should provide in the final report also information on the compliance with the recommended outsourcing thresholds. In case the thresholds could not be respected, the final report should include explanations.